

enforcement officials that they were actually outgunned by the extremists. The handouts that you have received will illustrate some of these points. In the handouts you have a letter from James Ahern, Special Agent in charge of the Omaha Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. "Among the items uncovered at the site were approximately 35 machine guns, antitank weapons, land mines, 40 hand grenades, 3 1/2 blocks of C-4 explosives, dynamite, and other explosive material. This group also possessed an armored personnel carrier." I think in that same statement from James Ahern, the second paragraph you will notice, and I quote, "First, domestic terrorism does exist within the State of Nebraska. By this I mean that individuals and groups of individuals within this state advocate the overthrow of lawful government by means of force and violence. Investigations by my office, in conjunction with the Nebraska State Patrol, and various other county and local law enforcement agencies have proven that, in fact, this type of activity is taking place. Although no particular label is attached to these groups because of their intense desire for anonymity and secrecy, ties to known organized domestic terrorist groups in other states have been confirmed. Similar activities have been uncovered in nearby states." I think we are all aware, as I said earlier, of the activities in Missouri and Arkansas. Eventually in Arkansas the leaders of the compound surrendered, but the fact that such an occurrence happened in this country, let alone the peaceful Midwest I think is somewhat shocking. And it could just as well have happened here in Nebraska. We know that they trade weapons across state lines and in fact The Covenant, Sword and the Arm of the Lord has, according to law enforcement authorities, membership in Nebraska as does the Posse Comitatus, the Aryan Nation, and other similar groups, and I think we must remember that these groups are not like the PTA or other civic groups. They do not publish membership lists. In fact, they work very hard in some cases to keep their identity secret. I think there has been so much made the past year about the worsening agricultural climate and the extremist groups, and as I have said at hearings, I think we must be clear on this point that this is not a problem that should be blamed in any way on farmers who are facing financial problems, and again I would repeat, this is not a problem that should be blamed on in any way on farmers who are facing financial problems. These extremist groups we know existed long before the present crisis in agriculture,